

Message Text

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17 11

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 PCH-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 ACDA-19 IO-14 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USSS-00 USIE-00 AID-20 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 /198 R

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APPROVED BY NEA TASK FORCE - DAVID A. KORN

S/S-O R. ELTZ

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O 180452Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SUVA BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY BANJUL BY POUCH

AMCONSUL CURACAO BY POUCH

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE BY POUCH

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INFORM CONSULS

KUWAIT POUCH MUSCAT, DOHA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS XX

SUBJ: MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

1. FOLLOWING IS MIDDLE EAST SITUATION THROUGH EVENING
OCTOBER 17.

2. MILITARY SITUATION: ISRAELIS CLAIM TO HAVE ESTABLISHED
BRIDGEHEAD ON WEST BANK OF CENTRAL SECTOR OF CANAL SUP-
PORTED BY ONE PONTOON BRIDGE. IN FIGHTING IN SINAI OCT. 17,
ISRAELIS SAY THEY DESTROYED 90-100 EGYPTIAN TANKS. EGYPT-

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TIANS CLAIM ISRAELI FORCE TRAPPED AND ERADICATED. ISRAELIS

ADMIT AT LEAST 5 A/C LOST IN SINAI AIR ACTIVITY WHILE CLAIMING ONE EGYPTIAN MIG DOWNED. SYRIAN FRONT GENERALLY QUIET, WITH LIMITED ATTACKS BY JORDANIAN AND SYRIAN ELEMENTS REPULSED, ACCORDING TO ISRAELIS, WHO ALSO REPORT DOWNING SIX SYRIAN AIRCRAFT.

3. FOUR ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS MET WITH THE PRESIDENT TODAY; THEY ALSO MET WITH THE SECRETARY BEFORE AND AFTER THEIR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT. IN THE PUBLIC EXCHANGE OF REMARKS AFTER THEIR MEETING, PRESIDENT STATED THAT A MAJOR AND URGENT GOAL OF THE US IS A "FAIR AND JUST AND EQUITABLE PEACE."

4. ACCORDING TO AN UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF THE STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE OAPEC CONFERENCE ON OCT. 17, EACH OF THE ELEVEN ARAB PRODUCERS SAY THEY WILL IMMEDIATELY CUT OIL PRODUCTION BY FIVE PER CENT (BASED ON SEPTEMBER PRODUCTION) AND WILL CONTINUE TO CUT BY THE SAME AMOUNT EACH MONTH UNTIL THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES ARE RETURNED TO THE RIGHTFUL OWNERS AND THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE ARE RESTORED." HOW THESE CUTS WILL BE APPLIED TO EXPORTS TO PARTICULAR COUNTRIES IS NOT YET CLEAR. THE STATEMENT SAYS ONLY THAT "THIS DECISION WILL NOT HARM ANY FRIENDLY COUNTRY WHICH IS HELPING THE ARABS NOW OR WILL HELP THEM IN THEIR STRUGGLE. THEY WILL BE SUPPLIED WITH PETROLEUM IN THE SAME QUANTITIES AS BEFORE THE DECISION."

5. PERSIAN GULF PRODUCERS ANNOUNCED A 70 PER CENT INCREASE IN THE POSTED PRICES OF THEIR CRUDE AND ABU DHABI PLACED AN ADDITIONAL LOW-SULPHUR PREMIUM ON ITS CRUDE, RAISING THE POSTED PRICE TO OVER SIX DOLLARS PER BARREL.

6. THERE WERE INCREASED CALLS FOR ACTION AGAINST U.S. INTERESTS IN THE ARAB WORLD BY MORE RADICAL ARAB MEDIA AND ORGANIZATIONS, BUT THERE WERE NO REPORTS OF HOSTILE ACTS AGAINST AMERICAN COMMUNITIES.

7. THE SOVIET FLEET CONTINUED ITS BUILD-UP IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND NOW NUMBERS 70, THE HIGHEST LEVEL EVER.

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SOVIET RESUPPLY OF THE ARABS CONTINUED AT HIGH LEVELS. KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCH ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: worrelsw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE206423
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JDEAN:JFC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS KORN
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731024/aaaaargq.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: worrelsw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <05 MAR 2002 by worrelsw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MIDDLE EAST SITUATION
TAGS: PFOR, XX
To: ALL POSTS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005